

REMARKS

Claims 18-30 are now presented for examination. Claims 18-21 and 23-30 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Claim 22 has been amended to define still more clearly what Applicants regard as their invention, in terms which distinguish over the art of record. Claim 22 is the only claim.

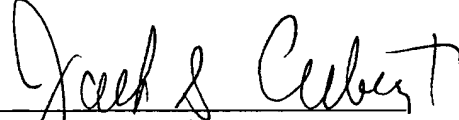
Canceled Claims 18, 20, 21, 23, 25, 27, 28 and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication 2001/0046315 (Sentoku et al.).

Claim 22 has been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but has been indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, Claim 22 as currently amended has been rewritten to include all of the limitations of its base Claim 18 and is believed to be allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, reconsideration and allowance of this application is deemed to be in order and such action is respectfully requested.

Applicants' attorney, Steven E. Warner, may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jack S. Cubert", written over a horizontal line.

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